

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

The foregoing amendment is being made to place the application in better condition for examination. The changes to the claims represent changes in formalities so as to place the claims in a U.S. format. These changes do not narrow the claimed subject matter presented and examined in the corresponding international application. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our **Deposit Account No. 50-0310**. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such a extension is requested and the fee should be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**In the Abstract:**

The abstract has been amended as follows:

The invention relates to an electronic lock {(3)} for a locking system, in particular an electronic ignition lock for a motor vehicle. The lock {(3)} has a holder {(11)} into which an associated electronic key can be introduced. The key, which is in the holder {(11)}, exchanges at least one coded operating signal with the lock {(3)}, ~~with the result that after positive evaluation of the transmitted operating signal the release of the lock (3) for movement of the holder (11) by means of the key].~~ **After positively evaluating the operating signal, the holder can be moved** into at least one actuating position ~~[can be triggered].~~ The lock {(3)} has a blocking element ~~[(17) which executes an adjusting movement]~~ **which adjusts** on introduction of the key into the holder {(11)} and/or removal of the key from the holder {(11)}. ~~The blocking element (17) interacts with the holder (11) in such a manner that the movement of the holder (11) additionally to its release is made possible only].~~ **Movement of the holder is possible** when the key is correctly in the holder {(11)}. Furthermore, the lock {(3)} has a switching element {(16)} on which the adjusting movement of the blocking element {(17)} exerts a switching action[-] via a separate ~~transmitter transmitting means {(25)}~~ which can be brought into operative connection both with the blocking element {(17)} and with the switching element {(16)}, ~~with the result that by introduction of the key into the holder (11) the switching element (16) produces a signal ("key inserted" signal)].~~

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In the Specification:

The following section heading has been inserted at page 1, line 2:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION --

The following section heading has been inserted at page 2, line 32:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --

The following section heading has been inserted at page 5, line 30:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

The following section heading has been inserted at page 6, line 22:

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --

Page 14 has been deleted in its entirety.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-9 have been amended as follows:

1. **(Amended)** An electronic lock for a locking system{(1)}, in particular electronic ignition lock for a motor vehicle, ~~[having]~~ **comprising:**
 - a holder {(11)} into which an associated electronic key {(2)} can be introduced, and
 - having a switching element {(16)} which can be actuated by introduction of the key {(2)} into the holder {(11)} and that produces a signal ("key inserted" signal) in the process, the key {(2)}, which when is in the holder {(11)}, ~~exchanging~~ **exchanges** at least one coded operating signal {(9)} with the lock {(3)}, with the result that after positive evaluation of the ~~transmitted~~ operating signal {(9)} the release of the lock {(3)} for movement of the holder {(11)} by means of the key {(2)} into at least one actuating position can be triggered, wherein a blocking element {(17)}, which executes an adjusting movement on introduction of the key {(2)} into the holder {(11)} ~~and/or~~ **or** removal

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of the key {(2)} from the holder{(11)}, interacts with the holder {(11)} in such a manner that the movement of the holder {(11)} additionally to its release is made possible only when the key {(2)} is correctly in the holder{(11)}, wherein a separate transmitting means {(25)} for the adjusting movement of the blocking element {(17)} can be brought into operative connection with the blocking element {(17)} at one end and with the switching element {(16)} at the other end, and wherein the adjusting movement of the blocking element {(17)} causes the transmitting means {(25)} to exert a switching action on the switching element{(16)}.

2. **(Amended)** The electronic lock as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blocking element {(17)} is designed in the manner of a mechanical blocking slide{(21)}, wherein the blocking slide {(21)} is preferably mounted movably on the holder {(11)} ~~and/or~~ or in the immediate vicinity of the holder{(11)}, and wherein furthermore the blocking slide {(21)} preferably can be brought by means of the key {(2)} into or out of operative connection with a groove {(22)} in the housing {(18)} of the lock {(3)} for additional blocking or release of the movement of the holder{(11)}.

3. **(Amended)** The electronic lock as claimed in claim 1 ~~for 2~~, wherein the blocking element {(17)} is subjected to a force, in particular a spring force, in the direction of ~~the~~ a groove {(22)} in the housing {(18)} of the lock {(3)} in such a manner that when the key {(2)} is outside the holder {(11)} or when it is not correctly in the holder{(11)}, the blocking element {(17)} protrudes into the groove{(22)}, and wherein when the key {(2)} is correctly in the holder {(11)} the blocking element {(17)} is secured outside the groove {(22)} by the key{(2)}.

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4. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in claim 1, ~~{2 or 3}~~ wherein an extension {(24)} on the housing {(23)} of the key {(2)} acts on the blocking element {(17)} so as to bring about its adjusting movement ~~and/or~~ or for its securing.

5. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in ~~{one of claims 1 to 4}~~ claim 1, wherein the transmitting means {(25)} comprises a lever which is arranged between the blocking element {(17)} and the switching element {(16)}, the blocking element {(17)} acting on one end {(33)} of the lever {(25)}, with the result that the lever {(25)} can be moved by the adjusting movement of the blocking element {(17)}, and wherein the other end {(34)} of the lever {(25)} acts on the actuating member {(26)} of the switching element {(17)} ~~{sic}~~, with the result that during the adjusting movement of the blocking element {(17)} the lever {(25)} moves the actuating member {(26)} in order to exert a switching action on the switching element {(17)} ~~{sic}~~.

6. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in ~~{one of claims 1 to 5}~~ claim 1, wherein the blocking element {(17)} is designed as a spring-loaded, opposed pair of slides {(21, 21')}, wherein a cam {(27)} on the blocking slide {(21)}, in particular on one blocking slide {(21)} of the pair of slides {(21, 21')}, preferably acts on one end {(33)} ~~of the lever (25)}~~ of a lever which is arranged between the blocking element and switching element, and wherein furthermore ~~{the}~~ a groove {(22)} within the housing {(18)} in the lock {(3)} is preferably configured in the region of the cam {(27)} as an opening {(28)}, with the result that one end {(33)} of the lever {(25)} protrudes into the groove {(22)} on that side of the groove {(22)} which lies opposite the blocking element {(17)}.

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7. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in ~~{one of claims 1 to 6}~~ claim 1, wherein the switching element ~~{{(16)}}~~ comprises an electric switch, in particular a push-button switch designed in the manner of a break contact element, wherein the switching element ~~{{(16)}}~~ is preferably provided with a fully enclosed housing~~{{(30)}}~~, and wherein furthermore the switching element ~~{{(16)}}~~ is preferably fastened on a printed circuit board ~~{{(29)}}~~ arranged at a distance from the holder~~{{(11)}}~~, the switching element ~~{{(16)}}~~ in particular being designed in the manner of an SMD (surface mounted device) component, with the result that the switching element ~~{{(16)}}~~ can be fastened by its connections on the printed circuit board ~~{{(29)}}~~ using SMD technology.

8. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in ~~{one of claims 1 to 7}~~ claim 1, wherein the holder ~~{{(11)}}~~ is designed as an element which can be moved rotationally ~~and/or~~ or translationally by means of the key~~{{(2)}}~~, in particular as a rotatable rotor~~{{(19)}}~~, it being possible for a rotary catch ~~{{(20)}}~~ to be brought into and out of interaction with the rotor ~~{{(19)}}~~ in order to block or release the rotor~~{{(19)}}~~, wherein the released rotor~~{{(19)}}~~, on rotation into the actuating position, preferably interacts with further switching elements~~{{(31)}}~~, which are in the immediate vicinity of the rotor~~{{(19)}}~~, in the manner of a load-break switch, for example via a cam controlling means, and wherein furthermore the blocking element ~~{{(17)}}~~ is preferably mounted movably on ~~and/or~~ or in the rotor~~{{(19)}}~~.

9. (Amended) The electronic lock as claimed in ~~{one of claims 1 to 9}~~ claim 1, wherein in the actuating position of the holder ~~{{(11)}}~~ an additional blocking slide ~~{{(32)}}~~ is in

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operative connection with the electronic key {(2)} in such a manner that removal of the key {(2)} from the holder {(1)} is prevented.

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